



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

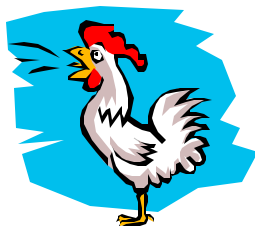
FRIDAY
APRIL 28, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 51

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Majority prices were mostly trending unchanged for next week's trading. Trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Demand was mixed, mostly light to moderate, best for fast food with improvements expected for next week. Supplies were at least adequate for trade needs with lighter weights at times more available. In the parts structure, breast items were fully sufficient to ample and difficult to place. Supplies of all other parts easily handled the light interest. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, but mostly desirable.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 05/01-05/06/00 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)			COMPOSITE WTD	
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	AVG	LOADS
Chicago	42.00-46.00	38.00-60.00	46.00	25
Los Angeles	62.00			
New York	53.00-56.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	57.00-59.00	39.00-59.50	57.00	84

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 57.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
540	52.21-59.25	57.20
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:		
ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	136.00	3,835
BREASTS - WHOLE	72.00	1,675
THIGH MEAT - B/S	99.50	601
LEG QUARTERS	18.50	7,565
WINGS	50.00	2,562

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady at best. Demand was slow to fair and continued to lack interest, but expected to improve next week for first of the month and upcoming Mother's Day activities. Supplies were at least adequate to handle trade needs with no difficulty. In the parts structure, breast items were ample to sufficient with attractive pricing reported to help clear. All other items were more than adequate and readily available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS The market tone was generally steady. Offerings ample for a highly selective buyer interest with discounts common. Retailer demand light to moderate. Floor stocks adequate.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into Chicago were unchanged from last Monday's final. Trade sentiment on whole broiler/fryers steady to barely steady, instances weak. Offerings fully adequate for trade needs. Movement into retail channels was slow to fair at best entering the weekend. Food service demand was slow to good with continued improvement expected next week. Floor stocks in a full range, sizes generally desirable. Parts trading was inactive overall even at attractive prices. Supplies were fully sufficient to instances burdensome. Trade sentiment steady on leg quarters and barely steady to instances weak on all other items.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light to fair at best. Offerings were readily available on 2.5-pound sizes and competitively priced in some instances. Heavier sizes were adequate. Movement into retail and distributive channels was slow to than fair, with some improvements noted for next week. The market tone was about steady. In the parts market, breast items were fully adequate to ample and slow in clearing. All other items were at least adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was light and continued to disappoint dealers. Offerings were at least sufficient to ample with 2.5's retaining the longest position. Live supplies were generally moderate; weights were desirable to light. Processing schedules were mostly moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 56 to 68 cents. Trade sentiment remained about steady with only slight improvement expected for the weekend. In the parts complex, breast items continued difficult to place with boneless, skinless breasts in the most burdensome position. Other items were at least adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

		BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE		57-68
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		59.36
NO. OF BOXES		6,228
CUMULATIVE	04/17/00-04/21/00	59.51
	04/19/99-04/23/99	52.12
NO. OF BOXES	04/17/00-04/21/00	28,718
	04/19/99-04/23/99	33,108

*5 of 8 plants reporting.

APR 27, 2000

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APR 28, 2000

ITEM	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	POUNDS		MAJORITY	WTD AVG	WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE			(000)	RANGE			(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	553	120.00-183.00	125-135	130.04	633	125.00-183.00	125-130	131.68	2,955	132.36
TENDERLOINS	115	135.00-195.00	135-140	150.87	200	140.00-195.00	140-145	146.50	699	153.46
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	63.00-78.00	-	64.05	186	63.00-78.00	63-65	69.45	699	69.00
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				70	49.00-52.00	-	50.50	350	55.15
LEGS	46	27.00-34.00	-	27.91	46	27.00-34.00	27-28	27.91	276	28.49
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	676	15.00-18.00	15-16	15.96	696	15.00-18.00	15-16	15.91	3,342	16.10
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,187	18.00-20.00	19	18.94	1,465	18.00-20.00	18-19	18.82	5,722	19.07
WINGS (WHOLE)	115	47.00-56.00	51-52	51.85	247	47.00-72.00	-	55.14	852	53.60
WINGS (CUT)	352	54.00-72.00	56-57	59.43	280	49.00-55.00	52-54	53.14	1,661	56.78
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				36	34.00
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				114	28.03
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				55	91.07

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APR 27, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**RANGE****AVERAGE**

34.75 - 36.25

35.23

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APR 28, 2000 F.O.B. DOCK.

TODAY'S**RANGE****AVERAGE**

32.00 - 35.00

33.21

5-DAY**AVERAGE**

35.61

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was light to fair entering the weekend. Offerings of breast items were fully adequate. Other items were at least adequate for current trade requirements. Movement into retail and distributive channels was slow to fair with some improvements noted for next week. The market tone was barely steady on breast items, balance of items were about steady. PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

APR 27, 2000

CURRENT NEG**WTD**

ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130	132.38	442,960
TENDERLOINS	135	149.10	48,520
BREAST - WITH RIBS	54-55	67.03	182,160
BREAST - LINE RUN	54	54.07	135,000
LEGS	29-30	32.26	166,360
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	21.40	279,400
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.63	92,970
THIGHS	28-29	33.57	67,880
B/S THIGHS	86-87	94.10	24,320
WINGS (WHOLE)	48-49	58.69	181,760
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	41,040
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	35.00	46,880
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	45.00	61,920

CURRENT NEG**WTD**

ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	130	145.09	505,560	138.00	2,045,490
TENDERLOINS	135	149.52	54,000	146.30	266,880
BREAST - WITH RIBS	54-55	64.30	213,240	67.79	984,800
BREAST - LINE RUN	54	53.71	103,760	57.42	665,280
LEGS	29-30	33.44	200,360	32.50	881,490
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	18-19	19.78	415,660	20.33	1,778,601
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	34.64	91,880	33.98	519,410
THIGHS	28-29	33.30	78,600	32.91	380,700
B/S THIGHS	86-87	95.92	39,160	94.04	197,300
WINGS (WHOLE)	48-49	59.81	198,800	59.39	943,000
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.00	50,400	11.95	265,680
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	34.94	55,120	33.80	269,905
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40-45	44.30	89,820	44.72	372,410

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WTS		ACTUAL WTS	
	04/28	04/27	04/26	04/25	04/26	04/25	04/21	04/19
ALA	3,833	3,936	3,757	3,898	5.11	5.10	2,908	4.94
ARK	5,766	5,268	5,186	5,239	4.92	4.88	4,168	4.86
DELMARVA	2,363	2,392	2,286	2,376	5.06	5.13	1,639	5.15
KY-LA-TN	2,110	2,090	1,972	2,065	4.43	4.55	1,338	4.43
MISS	2,685	2,760	2,738	2,429	5.05	5.10	2,242	5.00
NC	2,744	2,592	2,596	2,490	5.92	6.01	1,768	5.78
TEXAS	2,277	2,326	2,157	2,179	4.77	4.80	2,093	4.81
TOTAL	21,778	21,364	20,692	20,676	5.05	5.04	16,156	4.99
MON-FRI103,899(A)							98,332(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 28-Apr & 29-Apr-00 is estimated to be 32,582,000 up 4.52 percent from a week ago and down 1.3 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 31,173,000; last year 33,015,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 29-Apr-00 is estimated to be 158,879,000 head up 8.4 percent from a week ago, and up 3.4 percent from a year ago (Last week 146,562,000 Last year 153,704,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	76-80
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	79
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	299
RABBITS-CUT UP	309

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY**DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	102-104
	ICE PACK	92-96
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	107-111
	DRY PACK	119
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	95
DUCKS		149-156

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live weight, week ending Apr 15, 2000 (Preliminary),

(A) Fast food/ (B) Retail (C) Deboning
Food service
4.20 Lbs & down 4.21-5.25 Lbs 5.26 Lbs & Up

	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	30,201	26,507	43,818
Avg Weight	3.80	4.73	5.98
% of total /1	30%	26%	44%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	32,524	38,204	44,881
Avg Weight	3.66	4.72	6.10
% of total /1	28%	33%	39%
Same week, yr ago /2	28,561	29,956	42,527
Avg Weight	3.77	4.94	6.06
% of total /1	28%	30%	42%
To date/2000	502,123	475,020	600,819
To date/1999	493,078	423,144	639,333

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding.

/2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

WEEK ENDING 22-Apr-2000 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	146,562(A)	2,030	1,433	3,463	391
AVG WT	5.05	3.39	7.81	5.22	6.74
LAST WEEK	154,848	2,259	1,335	3,594	438
YR AGO	152,325	2,332	1,431	3,763	382
AVG WT	5.13	3.49	7.99	5.20	6.26
TO-DATE/2000	2,453,333	32,590	21,882	54,472	7,223
TO-DATE/1999	2,397,623	34,945	21,390	56,335	7,248

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 149.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 148.3 million head or 1.6 million head less than or 99 percent of estimated fryers available.

EAST PETERSBURG POULTRY - DATE OF AUCTION: APR 25, 2000

	RANGE	RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	.68 - .80	Silkie 2.50 - 3.25ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	.72 - .84	Geese 9-14 .30 - .44
Red Fowl 4-4.5	.50 - .68	Pigeons 2.50 - 3.00ea.
Red Fowl 5-6	.60 - .84	White Pigeons 3.00 - 3.25ea.
Crossbred Fowl 5-9	.60 - .92	Rabbits 4-6 .80 - 1.20
Crossbred Roosters 4-6	.60 - 1.04	Rabbits 7-11 .80 - 1.10
Crossbred Roosters 7-11	.60 - 1.10	Bunnies 2.00 - 6.00ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.60 - 2.35	Guinea Pigs 2.00 - 5.50ea.
Banty Roosters	3.00 - 6.00ea.	Goats 40.00 - 52.50ea.
Banty Hens	2.50 - 4.00ea.	Kid Goats 22.00 - 40.00ea.
Leghorn Hens	.20 - .34	Doves 3.75 - 5.00ea.
Leghorn Roosters	.40 - .62	Pullets 4-6 .60 - .84

Total Coops Sold 624

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY for THE WEEK OF APRIL 24, 2000

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137	143
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	121-125	122-126
MOSTLY	121-123	122-124

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	54-57	54-55
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65-83	71-75

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-69.66
14 OZ.	66.96-76.14
16 OZ.	73.44-83.43

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. The market tone was steady. Demand was fair to good. Schedules were full-time and sizes were desirable. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18 oz boneless breast at \$4.65-5.25, legs at \$2.80-2.95, bone in leg at \$1.15-1.70, gizzards at \$1.30-1.40, wings at \$0.40-0.60, and leg quarters at \$1.08-1.15.

PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 24-APR-2000

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	117-119	118
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
MARCH 18	150.2	153.3	98	5.11
25	157.1	153.4	102	5.08
APRIL 1	158.1	152.9	103	4.97
8	155.5	150.5	103	5.03
15	156.7	149.4	105	5.05
22	148.3	149.9	99	5.05
YEAR TO DATE	2483.2	2421.3	103	
APRIL 29		153.5		
MAY 6		156.1		

CALIFORNIA PLTRY SLTR UNDER FED. INSP W/E 22-Apr-00 IN THOUSANDS

Broilers 3,569 HD, 17,774 lbs., Light Hens 200 HD, 684 lbs., Heavy Hens 0 HD, 0 lbs.

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

-----THOUSANDS-----					
<u>W/E</u>	<u>04/29/00</u>	<u>04/22/00</u>	<u>% CHG</u>	<u>05/01/99</u>	<u>% CHG</u>
Broilers	158,879	*146,562	+08	*153,704	+03
Cattle	680	675	+01	*714	-05
Hogs	1,711	1,695	+01	*1,866	-08

Under Federal Inspection

* ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL Prices trended unchanged to generally lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to moderate and usually unaggressive for offerings that ranged from in balance to available. The undertone was unsettled and barely steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
24-26.25 MAJORITY 25-26.25	32.25-35.75 MAJORITY 34.25-35.75

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
25.25-27 MAJORITY 25.25-26.5	33.25-38 MAJORITY 36-37.5

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Demand was light for offerings that were mostly ample for current needs. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Finished product was clearing at slightly lower levels. Undertone was steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were slow. Schedules were at desired levels. Trade sentiment was weak.

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged. Offerings ample for the light to moderate demand. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment about steady.

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings heavier.

LIVE HENS

Cents per pound, generally for slaughter the following week.

HEAVY	RANGE	MAJORITY
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
Southeast Heavy	TFEWR (2)	
f.o.b. plant	TFEWR	
South Central Heavy	TFEWR (1)	
LIGHT	RANGE	MAJORITY
Eastern Light	0 (1)	
Eastern Light	0 (2)	
So. Central Light	TFEWR (2)	
No. Central Light	TFEWR (1)	
No. Central Light	0-.5 (2)	0
(1) Buyer Loading	(2) Producer Loading	

(TFEWR) TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Buyers remain unaggressive for offerings that were fully adequate to ample for processors needs. Processing schedules were normal to heavy. Finished product was adequate to available. Market conditions were at best barely steady.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading was too few to report. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of heavy hens. Finished sales were sluggish and were at full schedules on processing volume. Trade sentiment was weak.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS. POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Grover T. Hunter
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Officer-In-Charge)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Bell, CA	Voice	(323)269-4154	Jim Derby
	Fax	(323)269-5926	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(323)260-4676	